



News from the
Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach

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NEWS RELEASE

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Catholic Schools Week Celebrated Jan 25 – Jan 31, 2009 Nationwide

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Palm Beach will take part in **Catholic Schools Week events January 25 – January 31, 2009** as part of the national celebration of Catholic education and its contribution to communities and the nation. During this designated week, the 19 Catholic schools (high school, grammar and pre-school) in the five county Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach will focus on the important role of Catholic schools in providing a values-based education for America's young people and their making the world a better place for all. The purpose of **Catholic Schools Week** is to build community awareness and involvement in Catholic Schools throughout the country. This year's theme for Catholic Schools Week is "**Catholic Schools Celebrate Service.**"

The Florida Catholic Bishops together in a joint statement congratulated students, parents, teachers and administrators, "*We wish to especially express our gratitude to the parents who have entrusted the education of their children to our Catholic schools. We have confidence that this investment will allow their children to make important contributions as responsible citizens and leaders in the Church, future priests, and religious as well as educated laity...As generations for the past 200 years have done, we urge the entire Catholic Community to continue to support our schools.*"

During **Catholic Schools Week** exciting events will take place in each and every Catholic pre-school, grammar school, and high school including events that feature: Catholic Identity, Student Appreciation, Volunteer Appreciation, School Spirit, Family Appreciation, Mass and Prayer, Physical Activity, Vocations Awareness and Service.

Superintendent of Schools, Sister Joan Dawson, O.S.F., said this year's theme underscores the great commitment Catholic education has to community service, "*As part of the effort to educate the whole child, Catholic schools instill in students a lifelong commitment to serve others. By teaching students about civic engagement and providing them with opportunities to serve, Catholic schools equip them with the tools they need to*

fulfill their future roles as good citizens, productive employees and compassionate leaders.”

For more information on Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Palm Beach visit www.diocesepb.org. To read the full statement of the Florida Catholic Bishops visit www.flacathconf.org.

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